

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 01261 041051Z

11

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

----- 006578

O 041000Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8266

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1261

EXDIS

E.O. 11 "2: GDS

TAGS: PINS CASC ET

SUBJ: TENNECO SEVEN

REF: STATE 116177

1. FOR USG OFFICIALS ONLY, I WISH MAKE CLEAR THAT THIS EMBASSY HAS IN FACT BEEN IN CLOSEST CONTACT WITH VARIOUS TENNECO REPS HERE SINCE INCEPTION OUR INVOLVEMENT IN CASE. TENNECO REPS HAVE BEEN SOLICITOUS IN OBTAINING OUR ADVICE AND IN PROCEEDING GENERALLY ALONG LINES AGREED IN OUR DISCUSSIONS. IN CASE PUTATIVE RELEASE ELF INFIETERS BY IEG, HOWEVER, BURGER DID NOT RPT NOT INDICATE TO US

HE WOULD MAKE THIS POINT TO ZEIN. BOTH I AND OTHERS ON STAFF HAVE NEVERTHELESS REPEATEDLY STRESSED TO TENNECO REPS GOS SENSITIVITY REGARDING SUDAN/ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS, MAKING CLEAR THAT ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT CALL THESE INTO QUESTION SHOULD BE ESCHEWED AS JEOPARDIZING FUTURE OF THIS NEGOTIATING EFFORT (SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, KHARTOUM 1258 WHICH CROSSED REFTEL).

2. ON SPECIFIC QUESTION FREEMAN TRIP HERE, I HAVE ENDEAVORED INDUCE BURGHER GIVE FREEMAN ALTERNATIVE OF HIS (BURGHES) VISITING ATHENS TO BRIEF HIM IN ORDER AVOID POSSIBLE COMPLICATIONS WHICH FREEMAN ARRIVAL HERE MIGHT OCCASION. PERHAPS UNDERSTANDABLY, BURGHER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KHARTO 01261 041051Z

HAS SO FAR REFUSED DISCOURAGE HIS BOARD CHAIRMAN IN COURSE OF

ACTION ON WHICH FREEMAN APPEARS DETERMINED. ACCORDINGLY, MOST GRATEFUL DEPTS FORTHRIGHT MESSAGE FREEMAN (PARA 4, 116588) WHICH HAPPY NOTE HAS CONVINCED HIM UNWISDOM HIS VISIT (ATHENS 3366).

3. RE PARA 1 STATE 116177, EMBASSY UNDER IMPRESSION ELF DEMANDS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. PARA 6 KHARTOUM 1167 OF MAY 26 CONTAINED WHAT ZEIN DESCRIBED AS MODIFIED ELF DEMANDS. WHILE AMOUNT RANSOM AND NUMBER POLITICAL PRISONERS WHO MIGHT BE RELEASED ARE OBVIOUSLY SUBJECT DETAILED NEGOTIATION (AND TENNECO IN NO POSITION GIVE ANY COMMITMENTS RE LATTER), IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE AVOID SOME RESPONSIVENESS TO ELF POLITICAL DEMANDS IF HOSTAGES ARE TO BE RELEASED. SINCE TENNECO'S NEGOTIATOR, GRAHAM, WAS ALREADY HERE, WE HAD ASSUMED PURPOSE SENDING BURGHER KHARTOUM WAS TO ADDRESS THESE SPECIFIC DEMANDS ON PART TENNECO. AS INDICATED KHARTOUM 1257, BURGHER DID ATTEMPT EXPLOIT HELPFUL NON-RANSOM AND NON-POLITICAL ARGUMENTS CONTAINED PARA 2, ADDIS 6209, BUT ZEIN EVIDENTLY UNIMPRESSED. WE WILL CONTINUE ENCOURAGE TENNECO ALONG THESE LINES BUT, AS DEPT AND ADDRESSEES APPRECIATE, BOTH FREEMAN AND OTHER TENNECO REPS SOMEWHAT UNPREDICTABLE IN THEIR ACTIONS AND CLEARLY FOCUSING ONNRELEASE THEIR PEOPLE RATHER THAN IMPACT NEGOTS ON IEG. RE LATTER, DINDICATIONS HERE FROM KNOWLEDGEABLE SUDANESE AND ZEIN UNDERSCORE THAT ORGANIZATION HOLDING HOSTAGES IS NEW-STYLE, RADICAL, POLITICAL GROUPING FOR WHICH TRADITIONAL APPEALS INVOLVING TRIBAL LOYALTIES AND SIMILAR HISTORIC CONSIDERATIONS (AND EVEN, CONCEIVABLY, TOO-MODEST RANSOM) UNLIKELY PROVE NOTABLY PERSUASIVE. CONCUR IT WOULD BE SIMPLER ALL AROUND IF POLITICAL DEMANDS COULD BE BYPASSED, BUT ORGANIZATION WHICH REGARDS ITSELF AS BASICALLY POLITICAL MAY BE RELUCTANT ABJURE SOME CLEAR POLICICAL BENEFIT FOR RELEASING HOSTAGES.

4. WE HAVE SHOWN BURGHER ALL APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE FROM DEPT AND ADDRESSEES (OBVIOUSLY EXCLUDING PARA 2 STATE REFTEL) AND WILL CONTINUE DO EVERYTHING WE CAN ASSIST TENNECO NEGOTIATIONS IN MANNER WHICH WILL NOT REPEAT NOT EMBARRASS GOS, IEG, OR VENTILATE POLITICAL ISSUES ON WHICH COMPANY OBVIOUSLY WITHOUT AUTHORITY. FREEMAN'S LATEST MESSAGE (ATHENS 3366) BEING COMMUNICATED ZEIN WITHIN HOUR AND WE HOPE RESPONSE WILL BE POSITIVE. BREWER
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KHARTO 01261 041051Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, HOSTAGES, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974KHARTO01261
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740141-0275
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740677/aaaacowj.tel
Line Count: 107
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: STATE 116177
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TENNECO SEVEN
TAGS: PINS, CASC, ET, ELF, TENNECO SEVEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005